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Management, Building 85, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225.

(c) A report is considered received when it is delivered to MMS at the addresses specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section. Reports received at the MMS addresses specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section after 4 p.m. mountain time are considered received the following business day.

[56 FR 20127, May 2, 1991, as amended at 57 FR 41867, Sept. 14, 1992; 58 FR 64903, Dec. 10, 1993; 67 FR 19111, Apr. 18, 2002]

§216.20 Applicability.

The requirements of this part shall apply to all oil and gas operators reporting information on Federal and Indian leases or federally-approved agreements, including leases or agreements on the OCS.

[58 FR 45254, Aug. 27, 1994, as amended at 66 FR 45773, Aug. 30, 2001]

§216.21 General obligations of the reporter.

The reporter shall submit accurately, completely and timely, pursuant to the requirements of this part, all information forms and other information required by MMS. Specific guidance on the use of the required forms is contained in the production reporter handbook. Copies of the handbook are available from the MMS.

[51 FR 8175, Mar. 7, 1986, as amended at 67 FR 19111, Apr. 18, 2002]

§216.25 Confidentiality.

(a) Information obtained by MMS pursuant to the rules of this part shall be open for public inspection and copying during regular office hours upon a written request, pursuant to rules at 43 CFR part 2, except that:

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, information obtained from a reporter under this part relating to a minerals agreement approved pursuant to the Indian Mineral Development Act of 1982, 25 U.S.C. 2101 *et seq.*, the Tribal Leasing Act of 1938 (25 U.S.C. 396a *et seq.*), or the Allotted Indian Mineral Development Act of 1909 (25 U.S.C. 396), shall not be released without the written consent of the Indian Tribe(s) or individual Indian(s)

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who are parties to the mineral agreement.

(2) Information obtained from a reporter pursuant to this part that constitutes a trade secret and/or commercial or financial information which is privileged or confidential, or other information that may be withheld under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552(b)), such as geologic and geophysical data concerning wells, shall be available for public inspection in accordance with 43 CFR part 2. When such information is related to Indian lands, consent to release the information must also be obtained from the cognizant Tribe or allottee.

(b) If any geologic and/or geophysical data is submitted under this part, these shall be made available to the public only in accordance with the provisions of 30 CFR 250.3, 250.4 and 252.7, if these relate to an offshore lease, and in accordance with 43 CFR 3162.8 if these relate to an onshore Federal or Indian lease.

§216.30 Special forms and reports.

When special forms or reports other than those referred to in the regulations in this part are necessary, instructions for the filing of such forms or reports will be provided by the Associate Director. Such requests will be made in conformity with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, and are expected to involve less than 10 respondents annually.

[51 FR 8175, Mar. 7, 1986, as amended at 67 FR 19112, Apr. 18, 2002]

§216.40 Assessments for incorrect or late reports and failure to report.

(a) An assessment of an amount not to exceed \$10 per day may be charged for each report not received by MMS by the designated due date.

(b) An assessment of an amount not to exceed \$10 may be charged for each incorrectly completed report.

(c) For purposes of oil and gas reporting under the PAAS, a report is defined as each line of production information required on the Monthly Report of Operations (Form MMS-3160), Oil and Gas Operations Report (Form MMS-4054), Gas Analysis Report (Form MMS-4055), Gas Plant Operations Report (Form

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MMS-4056), and Production Allocation Schedule Report (Form MMS-4058).

(d) The MMS will not make assessments for reporting problems which are beyond the control of the reporter (e.g., reports received late because of bad weather). The reporter shall have the burden of proving that a reporting problem was unavoidable.

(e) An assessment under this section shall not be shared with a State, Indian tribe, Indian allottee, or Alaska Native Corporation.

(f) The amount of the assessment to be imposed pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall be established periodically by MMS. The assessment amount for each violation will be based on MMS's experience with costs and improper reporting. The MMS will publish a Notice of the assessment amount to be applied in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

[51 FR 8175, Mar. 7, 1986, as amended at 52 FR 27546, July 22, 1987; 53 FR 16412, May 9, 1988; 58 FR 64903, Dec. 10, 1993; 59 FR 38905, Aug. 1, 1994; 66 FR 45773, Aug. 30, 2001]

Subpart B—Oil and Gas, General

§ 216.50 Monthly report of operations.

(a) You must submit a Monthly Report of Operations, Form MMS-3160, if you operate either an onshore Federal or Indian lease or an onshore federally-approved agreement that contains one or more wells that are not permanently plugged and abandoned. You may submit Form MMS-3160 electronically.

(b) You must submit a Form MMS-3160 for each well for each calendar month, beginning with the month in which you complete drilling, unless you have only test production from a drilling well or MMS tells you in writing to do otherwise.

(c) MMS must receive your completed Form MMS-3160 according to the following table:

If you submit your form . . .	We must receive it by . . .
(1) Electronically	The 25th day of the second month following the month for which you are reporting.
(2) Other than electronically ..	The 15th day of the second month following the month for which you are reporting.

(d) You must continue reporting until either:

(1) BLM approves all wells as permanently plugged or abandoned and you dispose of all inventory; or

(2) The lease or agreement is terminated.

(e) You are not required to submit Form MMS-3160 if:

(1) You are authorized to submit an Oil and Gas Operations Report, Form MMS-4054, instead of a Form MMS-3160; or

(2) You operate a gas storage agreement. You must report gas storage agreements to the appropriate BLM office.

(f) Specific and detailed guidance on how to prepare and submit the required production data on the Form MMS-3160 are contained in the MMS *PAAS Onshore Oil and Gas Reporter Handbook*. See § 216.15 of this part.

(g)(1) Operators already reporting onshore lease production data to MMS in accordance with § 216.53 of this part on the effective date of this rule may request to change to the provisions of this section. Any request to change to the requirements of this section must be made by advance written notice to MMS and have MMS approval.

(2) An operator who reports production data to MMS for offshore leases in accordance with § 216.53 of this part may request to report for its onshore leases in accordance with the requirements of that section. Any such request must be made by advance written notice to MMS and have MMS approval.

(h)(1) Except where disclosure is required by law, information submitted on Form MMS-3160 that MMS classifies as confidential will be protected as such by both MMS and BLM for the period of 1 year. Operators must petition MMS for each lease or agreement to obtain a confidential classification and to extend the classification period beyond 1 year.

(2) Except as provided by statute, information submitted on Form MMS-3160 in regard to Federal leases and Indian leases which are part of a unit containing non-Indian leases is not considered to be confidential.

(3) Except where disclosure is required by law, all information submitted on Form MMS-3160 in regard to